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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3613

Applicant: Klaus Bruchmann

) PATENT APPLICATION

) BRU6144P0050US

Serial No.: 10/031,831

International

) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Designated

Filing Date: August 2, 2000

) Examiner: Not Yet Designated

• For: MULTIPOLAR CIRCUIT-
PROTECTION ASSEMBLY FOR
A COLLECTOR RAIL SYSTEM
(As Amended)

) Confirmation No. 5767

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JUL 22 2002

Sir:

GROUP 8000

Applicant has the following seven (7) co-pending U.S. patent applications

relating to fuses:

1. 09/508,953
2. 09/600,097
3. 10/031,830
4. 10/031,831
5. 10/031,941
6. 10/031,943
7. U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP/00/11041 with an international filing date of November 8, 2000 and U.S. stage initial submission date by Express Mail of May 23, 2002.

The following additional comments are directed to the non-English language

DE 88 2 452.1 U1 and DE 197 34 235 A1 previously submitted with the first

Information Disclosure Statement filed May 15, 2002:

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DE 88 02 457.1 U1

The German Utility Model DE 88 02 457.1 U1 discloses a fused switch unit, which comprises a manually operable load-brake switch 1 and a low-voltage capacity fuse-disconnector 1 in a common insulator housing 3. The device comprises a channel 19 with contact parts 22, 22 for receiving a fuse link 20 and further a rotatably mounted swiveling lever 24, at which the fuse link 20 is detachably mounted. The swiveling lever 24 is mechanically connected to the manually operable load-brake 1 so that a contact bridge 15 of said load brake switch is brought into a contact position by moving the swiveling lever 24, before contact blades 23, 23 will disconnect from contact pieces 22, 22.

DE 197 34 235 A1

The German patent application DE 197 34 235 A1 discloses a fused switch unit with a holder 6 for a fuse link 8, which can be inserted into a housing of the fused switch unit. The unit comprises a switch 11, which is operable manually in a way that the fuse holder 6 can be only taken out of the housing when the switch 11 is in an off-position, as can be seen in FIG. 3, whereas in an on-position the holder 11 is locked, as can be seen in FIG. 1.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

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No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the

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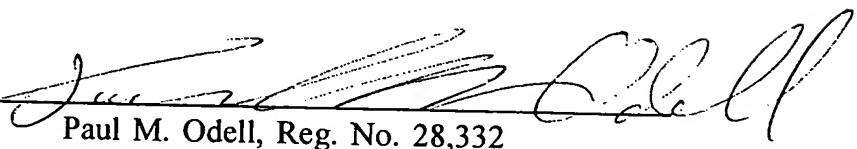
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disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on *May 31*, 2002.


Paul M. Odell

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